

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

For NPS use only

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

received

date entered

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*
Type all entries—complete applicable sections**1. Name**

historic Shawnee Drive Overpass

and/or common Shawnee Drive Overpass

2. Location NW of U.S. 35

street & number .1 mile northwest of I-35 over Seventh St. Trafficway — not for publication

city, town Kansas City — vicinity of

state Kansas code 20 county Wyandotte code 209

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
— district	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	— agriculture
— building(s)	— private	— unoccupied	— commercial
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> structure	— both	— work in progress	— educational
— site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	— entertainment
— object	— in process	— yes: restricted	— government
	— being considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	— industrial
	N/A	— no	— military
			— museum
			— park
			— private residence
			— religious
			— scientific
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> transportation
			— other:

4. Owner of Property

name City of Kansas City, Kansas

street & number City Hall, 701 N. 7th

city, town Kansas City N/A vicinity of state Kansas 66101

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Register of Deeds

street & number Wyandotte County Courthouse

city, town Kansas City state Kansas

6. Representation in Existing SurveysInventory of Historic Bridges
title Kansas Department of Transportation has this property been determined eligible? — yes ☒ nodate 1980-1983 — federal ☒ state — county — local

depository for survey records Kansas State Historical Society

city, town Topeka state Kansas

7. Description

Condition☐ excellent☒ good☐ fair☐ deteriorated☐ ruins☐ unexposed**Check one**☐ unaltered☒ altered**Check one**☐ original site☐ moved date _____

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Shawnee Drive Overpass .1 mile northwest of I-35 crossing Seventh Street Trafficway is a steel open spandrel arch measuring 94 feet in length. It has a width of 23.6 feet since it was widened in 1976. The bridge consists of four essential parts; a roadway deck, the deck supports or spandrel framing and two arch rings which spring from reinforced concrete abutements.

The structure was rebuilt in 1976 by Continental Steel and Conveyor, Inc. at a cost of \$149,792. A new wider deck was placed on the bridge, the substructure was painted and new walls and parapets were put in place.

8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates (1932-1934)

Builder/Architect Kansas City Structural Steel (designer)

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Shawnee Drive Overpass .1 mile northwest of I-35 crossing Seventh Street Trafficway in Kansas City, Kansas retains a high degree of its integrity of location, design, setting, materials, feeling and association. It embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type and method of construction no longer being used, namely a reinforced concrete deck supported by a riveted steel arch ring and spandrel posts and may yield information important to the history of engineering.

In use, the steel open spandrel arch or stiffened arch rib bridge acts much as a stiffened suspension bridge would if it were reversed in position. The redesigned former tension members now act in compression.

The design in its crude form began gradually to be introduced soon after the construction of metallic arches in the late 18th century but it was not until the late 19th century that the style became prominent in the United States.

The Shawnee Overpass represents later reinforcements of metal arch bridge construction and its combination with reinforced concrete elements. It is the only known example in Kansas.

Construction plans for the Shawnee Drive Overpass show a date of 1932-1934 which corresponds to the time of the building of the Seventh Street Trafficway. These plans also indicate that Concrete Engineering Company and Kansas City Structural Steel were involved in building the bridge for the city.

THIS STATEMENT REFLECTS CURRENT KNOWLEDGE AND IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE.

9. Major Bibliographical References

William Burr and Myron S. Falk, The Design and Construction of Metallic Bridges, Third Edition, New York: John Wiley and Sons Inc., 1916.

Henry Tyrrell, Artistic Bridge Design, Chicago: Myron C. Clark Publishing Company, N.d.
Plans on File, Office of the City Engineer, Kansas City, Kansas.

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property less than one acre

Quadrangle name Kansas City, MO-KS

Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

UTM References

A

1	5
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3	5	9	7	9	0
---	---	---	---	---	---

4	3	2	5	7	9	0
---	---	---	---	---	---	---

Zone

Easting

Northing

B

Zone

Easting

Northing

C

D

E

F

G

H

Verbal boundary description and justification

SEE CONTINUATION SHEET # 10

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state N/A code county code

state code county code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Larry Jochims, Research Historian and Michael Snell

organization Kansas State Historical Society

date August 2, 1983

street & number 10th and Jackson Street

telephone (913) 296-2973

city or town Topeka

state Kansas

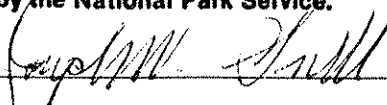
12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

☐ national ☒ state ☐ local

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature



title Executive Director, Kansas State Historical Society

date January 10, 1984

For NPS use only

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register

date

Keeper of the National Register

Attest:

date

Chief of Registration

**United States Department of the Interior
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Continuation sheet

Item number 10

Page 1

The nominated property shall consist of a rectangle created by the $23\frac{1}{2}$ foot width and 94 foot length of the structure crossing Seventh Street Trafficway on Shawnee Drive in Kansas City, Wyandotte County, Kansas. That portion of Seventh Street Trafficway passing underneath the bridge is not included. The bridge is located in the SW $\frac{1}{4}$, NW $\frac{1}{4}$, NW $\frac{1}{4}$, NE $\frac{1}{4}$, T11S, S27, R25E.



Shawnee Overpass
Kansas City, Kansas
UTM Reference:
15/359790/4325790

106211 SW
(SHAWNEE)
4325

4328

5

4327

4326



Shawnee Overpass
Kansas City, Kansas
UTM Reference:
15/359790/4325790